

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as indicated below without prejudice.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of determining the presence of a mutation in a target polynucleotide, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing at least two identical polynucleotide probe arrays, each array comprising probes, wherein each probe comprises a double stranded region and a single-stranded n-mer overhang region such that the overhangs in each array constitute a complete set of n-mers;
 - (b) hybridizing the target polynucleotide to said overhangs of probe polynucleotides in one array to generate a target hybridization pattern;
 - (c) hybridizing a reference polynucleotide to said overhangs of probe polynucleotides in a second array to generate a reference hybridization pattern; and
 - (d) determining the presence of a mutation in the target polynucleotide by normalizing intensity differences of hybridized probes in the reference and target hybridization patterns, comparing intensity differences of probes in the reference and target hybridization patterns and determining whether a mutation is present in the target polynucleotides.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein in step b), the hybridized target polynucleotide is ligated to the probe.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein in step c), the hybridized reference polynucleotide is ligated to the probe.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the overhangs have free 5'-ends.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the overhangs have free 3'-ends.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the n-mer comprises from about 4 to about 50 nucleotides.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation is a substitution mutation.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation is a deletion mutation.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation is an insertion mutation.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, in which said target polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of: a cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator gene, a p53 gene, a mitochondrial DNA, or an HIV gene.
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently Amended) A method of determining whether two or more target polynucleotides are identical, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing at least two identical polynucleotide probe arrays, each array comprising probes wherein each probe comprises a double stranded region and a single-stranded n-mer overhang region such that the overhangs in each array constitute a complete or substantially complete set of n-mers;

- (b) hybridizing a first target polynucleotide to said overhangs of probe polynucleotides in one array to generate a first hybridization pattern;
- (c) hybridizing a second target polynucleotide to said overhangs of probe polynucleotides in a second array to generate a second hybridization pattern; and
- (d) normalizing intensity differences of hybridized probes in the first and second hybridization patterns, comparing intensity differences of probes in the first and second hybridization patterns and determining whether two or more target polynucleotides are identical.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein in step b), the hybridized first target polynucleotide is ligated to the probe.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein in step c), the hybridized second target polynucleotide is ligated to the probe.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the overhangs have free 5'-ends.

16. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the overhangs have free 3'-ends.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the n-mer comprises from about 4 to about 50 nucleotides.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the arrays are arranged in parallel.

19. (Cancelled).